

## What's the Pluralism Alliance?

The Brandeis Pluralism Alliance aims:

- To create opportunities for a large cross-section of students to question identity and community at a deeper level, and to reach a more thoughtful and enduring understanding of these issues.
- To create alliances among different campus groups addressing issues of pluralism and unity.
- To foster networking, communication, and coalition building (e.g., having two or more clubs or organizations co-sponsor a project).
- To provide funds for creative new pluralism and unity programming involving students and faculty.

**Past grant recipients say...**

**“The purpose of our project goes beyond cultural and racial boundaries.”**

**“It strengthens communication and unity between the people who attend because they share an experience and can bring this experience and understanding of other traditions back into the Brandeis community.”**

**“Several different groups within Brandeis, who normally do not have a reason to communicate, were brought together in the same forum and had the opportunity to interact.”**

## Have a great idea? Apply for a grant and make it happen!!

BPA grant activities promote ideas inherent in pluralism and unity at Brandeis. These activities include performances, publications, workshops, art or service projects, etc.

Grant size varies. Preference is given to applications from teams of at least two individuals representing different backgrounds (e.g., an instructor and student, or individuals from different races, clubs, religions, or nationalities).

**Interested in applying for a grant?  
Applications are available online at  
[www.brandeis.edu/das/pluralism](http://www.brandeis.edu/das/pluralism).  
Applications will be considered in two  
rounds and are due by midnight on  
Sunday, September 13, 2009 and  
Sunday, January 31, 2010.**

Award-winning projects from past years include:

### **“Brandeis University ELL Learning Initiative”**

Brandeis students tutor facilities and food service employees in English, creating an environment of respect and mutual growth.

### **Philosophical Love**

"Philosophical Love" is a dance piece that examines and discusses the issues the gay community faces in China but also stands as a mouthpiece for any disenfranchised group unable to live in an open, free and accepting environment. It follows the story of two male lovers and the obstacles they face trying to be together. The piece will bring together both Modern Chinese and Modern Western songs

with Hip Hop, Modern, Ballroom, West African and Chinese dance.

### **Jews.and.Muslims Session: Homies in Harmony III**

We've hosted Homies in Harmony 1 and 2 to foster positive relationships between the Muslim and Jewish community at Brandeis through music, food, and friendship. This year, we'd like to expand the relationships through a respectful but challenging conversation. Please join us for a student panel, bring your own thoughts and questions, and dig into some free refreshments for JAM Session 2009. Torah and Quran passages will introduce the event and a musical performance will conclude it. This event is sure to be phenomenal, so come on by!

### **Iftars in Residence**

A series of events during which each of the quad staffs hosts Iftars, working with the Muslim Students Association to raise campus awareness about Ramadan, while also providing sustenance for the members of the Brandeis community. This program will foster networking between residents, MSA members, and other members of the community, as well as provide a more thoughtful understanding of Ramadan and the Muslim faith.

### **Interfaith Intercultural Friday Night Dinner**

This project is an attempt to bring students from different parts of campus together, literally "at one table" to share a good meal and spark conversations about diversity at Brandeis and beyond.

### **Hispanic Heritage Month 2008**

Culminating a month-long celebration for Hispanic Heritage Month, LATINO U.S.A.:Presencia e Identidad is the month's Main Event. The night will be filled with dance groups showcasing the mixture of Latin identity, such as Indian-Latin fusions, Hip Hop and traditional dances. The show will also have skits questioning the limits of identity, a student band, and much more!

## **Get Involved!! Join the Steering Committee!!**

The BPA Steering Committee is responsible for advising all of the Alliance's activities. This includes:

- Selecting student and faculty grant recipients
- Serving as liaisons to grant recipients
- Assisting the recipients in carrying out the Alliance's goals
- Organizing "plenary" Pluralism Alliance meetings for representatives of student organizations to share and discuss ongoing initiatives

**If you are interested in joining the committee**, additional information and an application form are available on the BPA website, [www.brandeis.edu/das/pluralism](http://www.brandeis.edu/das/pluralism). **The application deadline is midnight on Sunday, November 8, 2009.**



pluralism: *noun*, a social condition in which disparate religious, ethnic, and racial groups are part of a common community.

## **Promoting pluralism and unity in the Brandeis community**

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of Arts and Sciences  
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[www.brandeis.edu/das/pluralism](http://www.brandeis.edu/das/pluralism)